as a debating point for Pakistan or a point of departure for other self-determination proposals, than as an actual basis for a solution to the current crisis. Most press coverage of the Kashmir problem suggests that only a minority of the Kashmiri Muslims seek union with Pakistan, while the larger group of disaffected Kashmiris are demanding substantial autonomy or outright independence".

The Report also suggests that a possible solution to the Kashmir problem was "to give life and spirit to Article 370 of the Indian constitution, which is supposed to provide for a quasi-autonomous status but which in practice has been subverted to the point of meaninglessness".

India's position on the so-called Kashmir question is well-known; Kashmir is an integral part of the Indian Union and the only problem remaining is the vacation of territory presently occupied by Pakistan. The CRS Report contains views and judgements of its authors and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the US Government or the views of the Congress. The Report, of course, does not purport to reflect Government of India's position. Government will continue to make efforts towards conveying our stand on current developments in Kashmir to policy makers and legislators and other influential sections in the US, keeping in view the contents of this Reports.

Nodal Agency to Tackle Naxalism in the Country

5110. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a nodal agency to tackle the problem of naxalites in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). Ministry of Home Affairs will act as a nodal agency and assist the State Governments in organising measures for tacking the menace of left wing extremism.

[Translation]

Incidents of Terrorism and Kidnapping

5111. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of terrorism and kidnapping are increasing in the country; and

(b) whether the Government propose to launch a nation wide compaign with the cooperation of Central security forces and police force of all the States for checking these incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) There have been incidents of terrorist violence including kidnapping in some parts of the country especially in Punjab, J & K, Assam and Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) The security agencies in the States concerned are taking appropriate action and the Central Government is extending all possible assistance as and when required.

[English]

Deaths in Police Lock up in Delhi

5112. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: